



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:15 a.m. EDT (NOAA)

Agricultural Weather Highlights - Friday - November 29, 2002

- ***In the West***, scattered showers over ***southern California and the Southwest*** are likely causing only minor disruptions in autumn fieldwork. Cool, dry weather continues to slow winter wheat development in the ***Pacific Northwest***.
- ***On the Plains***, dry conditions favor final summer crop harvesting. Temperatures have moderated from the lows recorded earlier in the week, but a continuation of unseasonably cold weather hampers winter wheat development.
- ***In the Corn Belt***, lake-effect snow showers linger in the ***eastern Great Lakes***, but mostly dry, somewhat milder weather dominates primary production areas of the ***Midwest***, enabling late-season fieldwork and reducing stress on livestock.
- ***In the South***, dry, albeit cool weather is allowing cotton harvests to advance towards completion. This morning's temperatures fell below freezing as far south as ***northern Florida***, well north of the main citrus areas.

Outlook: Unseasonably cold weather will continue in the ***East*** as a series of arctic fronts plunge toward the ***Gulf Coast***. The arctic fronts will be accompanied by lake-effect snow squalls across the ***Great Lakes*** and snow showers across the ***Appalachians and Northeast***. Cold, windy weather will return to the ***Midwest***, helping to ease winter wheat towards a dormant state and increasing the potential for stress on livestock. Temperatures may approach freezing in ***Louisiana's sugarcane areas*** over the weekend but cold weather is not expected to reach important citrus producing areas in ***central Florida***. Farther west, scattered rain and snow showers are possible over the ***Southwest***. Elsewhere across the ***Pacific Northwest and Plain States***, dry weather will prevail through the holiday weekend. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for December 4-8 features below-normal precipitation across the ***Ohio Valley, Mid-Atlantic, and Pacific Northwest***, while above-normal precipitation is forecast for the ***southern Rockies*** and along the ***Gulf Coast***. Below-normal temperatures are expected across the ***eastern U.S.***, while above-normal temperatures are expected along the ***West Coast***.

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